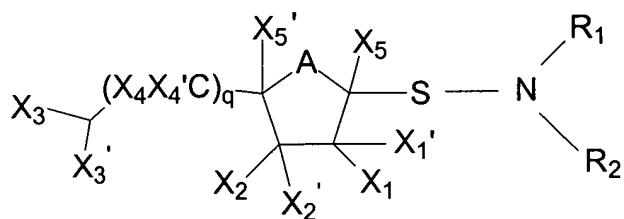


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A compound of general formula (I):



wherein A is selected from the group consisting of O, S, SO, SO₂, Se, Te, NR₈, CR₉R'₉, N → O and C(O);

and, when A is O and q is 1, one of R₁ and R₂ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, optionally substituted C₁₋₃ or >C₃₀ alkyl, alkyl when interrupted by one or more heteroatoms or functional groups selected from the group consisting of O, S, -N=, NR₇ and -(Y)_mC=(Z)(T)_n-, optionally substituted C₂₋₃ or >C₃₀ alkenyl, alkenyl when interrupted by one or more heteroatoms or functional groups selected from the group consisting of O, S, -N=, NR₇ and -(Y)_mC=(Z)(T)_n-, optionally substituted aralkyl which may be interrupted within the alkyl moiety by one or more heteroatoms or functional groups selected from the group consisting of O, S, -N=, NR₇ and -(Y)_mC=(Z)(T)_n-, optionally substituted acyl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted heterocyclic and a carbohydrate moiety, while the other of R₁ and R₂ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, optionally substituted alkyl which may be interrupted by one or more heteroatoms or functional groups selected from the group consisting of O, S, -N=, NR₇ and -(Y)_mC=(Z)(T)_n-, optionally substituted alkenyl which may be interrupted by one or more heteroatoms or functional groups selected from the group consisting of O, S, -N=, NR₇ and -(Y)_mC=(Z)(T)_n-, optionally substituted aralkyl which may be interrupted within the alkyl moiety by one or more heteroatoms or functional groups selected from the group

consisting of O, S, -N=, NR₇ and -(Y)_mC=(Z)(T)_n-, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted heterocyclic, optionally substituted acyl and a carbohydrate moiety;

but, when A is S, SO, SO₂, Se, Te, NR₈, CR₉R₉', N → O or C(O) and q is 1 or A is O, S, SO, SO₂, Se, Te, NR₈, CR₉R₉', N → O or C(O) and q is O, then R₁ and R₂ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, optionally substituted alkyl which may be interrupted by one or more heteroatoms or functional groups selected from the group consisting of O, S, -N=, NR₇ and -(Y)_mC=(Z)(T)_n-, optionally substituted alkenyl which may be interrupted by one or more heteroatoms or functional groups selected from the group consisting of O, S, -N=, NR₇ and -(Y)_mC=(Z)(T)_n-, optionally substituted aralkyl which may be interrupted within the alkyl moiety by one or more heteroatoms or functional groups selected from the group consisting of O, S, -N=, NR₇ and -(Y)_mC=(Z)(T)_n-, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted acyl and a carbohydrate moiety, or R₁ and R₂ together with the nitrogen atom from which they depend form a saturated or unsaturated, optionally substituted heterocyclic group which may include additional heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of O, N and S;

X₁ is selected from the group consisting of OR₃, SR₃, NR₃R'₃, hydrogen, halogen, -(Y)_mC=(Z)(T)_nR₃, -N(C=(Z)(T)_nR₃)₂, N₃, CN, OCN, SCN, OSO₃R₃, OSO₂R₃, OPO₃R₃R'₃, OPO₂R₃R'₃, S(O)R₃, S(O)₂R₃, S(O)₂OR₃, PO₃R₃R'₃, NR₃NR'₃R"₃, SNR₃R'₃, NR₃SR'₃, SSR₃ and R₃, or is an oxo group, =S, =NOR₃ or =CR₃R'₃ and X₁' is absent;

X₂ is selected from the group consisting of OR₄, SR₄, NR₄R'₄, hydrogen, halogen, -(Y)_mC=(Z)(T)_nR₄, -N(C=(Z)(T)_nR₄)₂, N₃, CN, OCN, SCN, OSO₃R₄, OSO₂R₄, OPO₃R₄R'₄, OPO₂R₄R'₄, S(O)R₄, S(O)₂R₄, S(O)₂OR₄, PO₃R₄R'₄, NR₄NR'₄R"₄, SNR₄R'₄, NR₄SR'₄, SSR₄ and R₄, or is an oxo group, =S, =NOR₄ or =CR₄R'₄ and X₂' is absent;

X₃ and X₃' are independently selected from the group consisting of OR₅, SR₅, NR₅R'₅, hydrogen, halogen, -(Y)_mC=(Z)(T)_nR₅, -N(C=(Z)(T)_nR₅)₂, N₃, CN, OCN, SCN, OSO₃R₅, OSO₂R₅, OPO₃R₅R'₅, OPO₂R₅R'₅, S(O)R₅, S(O)₂R₅, S(O)₂OR₅, PO₃R₅R'₅, NR₅NR'₅R"₅, SNR₅R'₅, NR₅SR'₅, SSR₅ and R₅, or X₃ is =O, =S, =NOR₅ or =CR₅R'₅ and X₃' is absent;

X₄ is selected from the group consisting of OR₆, SR₆, NR₆R'₆, hydrogen, halogen, -(Y)_mC=(Z)(T)_nR₆, -N(C=(Z)(T)_nR₆)₂, N₃, CN, OCN, SCN, OSO₃R₆, OSO₂R₆, OPO₃R₆R'₆, OPO₂R₆R'₆, S(O)R₆, S(O)₂R₆, S(O)₂OR₆, PO₃R₆R'₆, NR₆NR'₆R"₆, SNR₆R'₆, NR₆SR'₆, SSR₆ and R₆, or is an oxo group, =S, =NOR₆ or =CR₆R'₆ and X₄' is absent;

X₅ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, CN, -C=(Z)(T)_nR₁₁,

$S(O)R_{11}$, $S(O)_2R_{11}$, $S(O)_2OR_{11}$, $PO_3R_{11}R'_{11}$, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted alkaryl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted aralkyl, and optionally substituted acyl;

X_1' , X_2' , X_4' and X_5' are the same or different and are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, CN, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted alkaryl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted aralkyl, and optionally substituted acyl;

or one of X_1 and X_2 , X_2 and X_5' , X_5' and A when A contains a carbon or nitrogen atom, X_5 and A when A contains a carbon or nitrogen atom, and X_5 and X_1 together constitute a double bond, or X_5' and X_4 or X_3 and X_4 together constitute a double bond, or R_1 and X_1 , R_2 and X_1 , R_1 and X_2 , R_2 and X_2 , R_1 and X_5 , R_2 and X_5 , R_1 and X_5' , R_2 and X_5' , X_1 and X_2 , X_2 and X_3 , X_2 and X_4 , X_3 and X_4 , X_1 and X_1' , X_2 and X_2' , X_3 and X_3' or X_4 and X_4' together form part of a ring structure which optionally includes at least one heteroatom selected from O, S and N and is optionally substituted;

m, n and q are independently 0 or 1 and Y, Z and T are independently selected from the group consisting of O, S, and NR_{10} ;

R_3 , R'_3 , R''_3 , R_4 , R'_4 , R''_4 , R_5 , R'_5 , R''_5 , R_6 , R'_6 , R''_6 , R_7 , R_8 , R_9 , R'_9 , R_{10} , R_{11} and R'_{11} are the same or different and are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted alkenyl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted aralkyl, optionally substituted acyl and a carbohydrate moiety;

with the proviso that at least two of X_1 , X_2 , X_3 and X_4 are other than hydrogen or a group linked to the ring through a carbon-carbon bond and the further proviso that the compound of general formula (I) is not 1-(9H-purinyl)-S-(3-deoxy-pentafuranosyl)sulfenamide

5-formamido-2',3',5'-tri-O-formyl-1-(β -D-ribofuranosylthio)imidazole-4-carboxamide, N-phenyl-S-(2,3:5,6-di-O-isopropylidene- β -D-mannofuranosyl)sulfenamide or N,N-diethyl-S-(2,3,5,6-tetra-O-benzoyl- β -D-galactofuranosyl)sulfenamide;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein q is 0 or q is 1 and A is selected from S, SO, SO_2 , Se, Te, NR_8 , $CR_9R'_9$, $N \rightarrow O$ or $C(O)$ and one or both of R_1 and R_2 is alkyl.

3. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 2 wherein one or both of R₁ and R₂ is C₄₋₃₀ alkyl.

4. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 3 wherein one or both of R₁ and R₂ is C₆₋₁₂ alkyl.

5. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 4 wherein one or both of R₁ and R₂ is C₈₋₁₀ alkyl.

6. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein one or both of R₁ and R₂ is aralkyl.

7. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 6 wherein one or both of R₁ and R₂ is (CH₂)_rPh where Ph is phenyl and r is an integer in the range 1 to 12 inclusive.

8. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein one or both of R₁ and R₂ is alkyl interrupted by one or more heteroatoms or functional groups selected from the group consisting of O, S, -N=, NR₇, and -(Y)_mC=(Z)(T)_n.

9. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 8 wherein one or both of R₁ and R₂ is alkyl interrupted by one or more oxygen atoms.

10. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 9 wherein one or both of R₁ and R₂ is CH₃(CH₂)_xO(CH₂)_yO(CH₂)_z wherein x is an integer in the range 0 to 12 inclusive and y and z are independently integers in the range 1 to 12 inclusive.

11. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein q is 0 or q is 1 and A is selected from S, SO, SO₂, Se, Te, NR₈, CR₉R'₉, N → O or C(O) and one or both of R₁ and R₂ is alkenyl.

12. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R₁ and R₂ together with the nitrogen atom from which they depend form an optionally substituted saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic group.

13. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 12 wherein R₁ and R₂ together with the nitrogen atom from which they depend form a cyclic imide or a lactam.

14. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed in ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 to 13 wherein X₁ is OR₃.

15. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 14 wherein R₃ is hydrogen or optionally substituted acyl.

16. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed in ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 to 15 wherein X₂ is OR₄.

17. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 16 wherein R₄ is hydrogen or optionally substituted acyl.

18. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed in ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 to 17 wherein X₃ is OR₅.

19. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 18 wherein R₅ is hydrogen or optionally substituted acyl.

20. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed in ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 to 19 wherein X₄, when present, is OR₆.

21. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed in claim 20 wherein R₆ is hydrogen, acyl, or ~~optionally~~ substituted acyl.

22. (Currently Amended) A compound selected from the group consisting of:
N-benzyl-*S*-(2,3,5,6-tetra-*O*-benzoyl- β -D-galactofuranosyl)sulfenamide
N,N-dibenzyl-*S*-(2,3,5,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- β -D-galactofuranosyl)sulfenamide
N,N-dicyclohexyl-*S*-(2,3,5,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- β -D-galactofuranosyl)sulfenamide

N,N-di(2-methoxyethoxyethyl)-*S*-(2,3,5,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- β -D-galactofuranosyl)sulfenamide

1-(2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidinyl)-*S*-(2,3,5,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- β -D-galactofuranosyl)sulfenamide

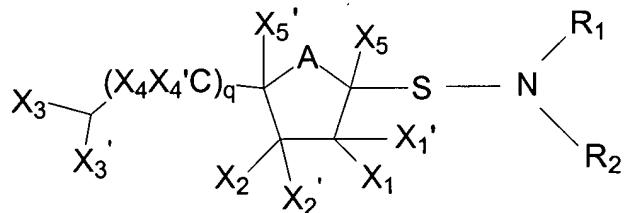
N,N-dioctyl-*S*-(2,3-di-*O*-acetyl-5-*O*-[*tert*-butyldiphenylsilyl]- α -D-arabinofuranosyl)sulfenamide

N,N-Dibenzyl-*S*-(β -D-galactofuranosyl)sulfenamide

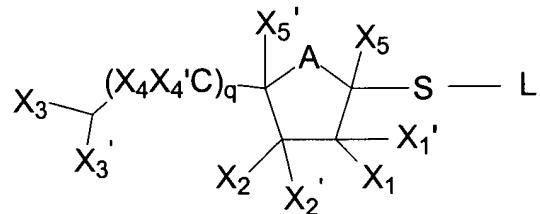
and

N,N-Di(2-methoxyethoxyethyl)-*S*-(β -D-galactofuranosyl)sulfonamide.

23. (Original) A method of preparation of a compound of general formula (I):

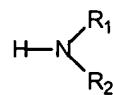


comprising reacting a compound of general formula (II):



wherein L is a leaving group, preferably acetyl and X₁, X_{1'}, X₂, X_{2'}, X₃, X_{3'}, X₄, X_{4'}, X₅ and X_{5'}, are as defined;

with a compound of general formula (III):



wherein R₁ and R₂ are as defined above;

in the presence of a bis-activated alkyl halide.

24. (Currently Amended) A method for the treatment of a microbial infection, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of general formula (I) as claimed in ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 to 22.

25. (Currently Amended) A method for the manufacture of a medicament for The use of in the treatment of a microbial infection comprising making a medicament containing a compound of general formula (I) as claimed in ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 to 22 ~~in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the treatment of a microbial infection.~~

26. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of general formula (I) as claimed in ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 to 22 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

27. (Currently Amended) A method of killing a microorganism, comprising exposing said microorganism to a compound of general formula (I) as claimed in ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 to 22.